



## KING COUNTY

### FIRE INVESTIGATOR I & FIRE INVESTIGATOR II DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Hourly Rate Ranges:

Level I \$24.57 - \$31.15

Level II \$26.44 – \$33.51

Job Announcement: 06KG5971

OPEN: 3/29/06 CLOSE: Open Continuous

**WHO MAY APPLY:** This position is open to the general public. The purpose of this advertisement is to create a list of qualified Fire Investigator candidates for the Fire Investigation Unit of the Fire Marshal's Office in the Department of Development and Environmental Services. Qualified candidates will remain on the list for a period of one year.

**WHERE TO APPLY:** Required forms and materials **must** be sent to: **DDES Human Resources, 900 Oakesdale Avenue SW, Renton, WA 98055, Fax 206-296-6728.** Email applications are encouraged at [ddesjobs@metrokc.gov](mailto:ddesjobs@metrokc.gov) (all application materials must be included). MS Word format is preferred. Contact Julie Kyle at 296-6617 for further inquiries. **PLEASE NOTE:** Applications not received at the location specified above may not be processed.

#### **FORMS AND MATERIALS REQUIRED:**

- [King County application form](#)
- Resume
- Letter of interest detailing your background and describing how you meet or exceed the requirements.

**WORK LOCATION:** 900 Oakesdale Avenue SW, Renton, WA.

**WORK SCHEDULE:** This full-time position is overtime eligible. It works a 40-hour workweek; Monday through Friday. Also works varied shift assignments on a scheduled or emergency basis, including weekends and holidays.

**PRIMARY JOB DUTIES FOR BOTH LEVELS:** The responsibilities of the Fire Investigator I and II classification include investigating fires to determine their origin and cause, including conducting criminal follow-up investigations for those fires determined to be incendiary. Primary job duties include:

1. Investigate and determine the origin and cause of fires in unincorporated King County, and incorporated cities having interlocal or mutual aid agreements with King County.
2. Prepare detailed written reports for owners, fire departments, and other agencies.
3. Conduct criminal follow-up investigations including interview witnesses and suspects, detection, apprehension and prosecution of arson suspects.
4. Provide expert testimony in court for both criminal and civil cases.
5. Perform on call standby duties in addition to the standard workweek.
6. Prepare investigation summary reports and fire investigation statistics as required.

KING COUNTY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER. JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

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(206) 296-5209 JOBLINE <http://www.metrokc.gov/ohrm/psd/openings.html> Website Address (206)-296-8535 TTY

7. Work as a team member during large investigations and independently as a primary investigator.

**ADDITIONAL DUTIES FOR LEVEL II:**

1. Prepare extensive detailed written reports to the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
2. Participate in the development of operational policies.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES FOR BOTH LEVELS:**

1. Knowledge of current fire investigation principles, methodologies and techniques.
2. Knowledge and understanding of the principles of fire science and fire behavior.
3. Knowledge and understanding of laws and legal ramifications of fire and criminal investigations.
4. Knowledge of fire and building codes.
5. Knowledge of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 921-Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations, and NFPA 1033-Standard for Professional Fire Investigator.
6. Knowledge and understanding of advanced principles and techniques of fire, arson, and criminal investigations.
7. Skill in communicating effectively, orally and in writing; skill in writing clear and concise detailed technical reports and fire investigation documentation; skill in making formal presentations to groups and committees.
8. Skill in problem solving, conflict resolution and decision making.
9. Skill in handling multiple competing priorities within tight timelines.
10. Skill in developing and maintaining effective working relationships with a variety of constituents.
11. Skill in gathering, analyzing and synthesizing data.
12. Skill in working with a variety of individuals from diverse backgrounds in high stress situations.
13. Skill using current office word processing, spreadsheet, database software and computer systems.
14. Ability to handle strenuous physical tasks such as digging, lifting and climbing.
15. Ability to handle physical emotional stress resulting from extraordinary work demands, long hours, dangerous situations and fire investigations with victim suffering, serious and/or fatal injuries.
16. Ability to work varied shift assignments on a scheduled or emergency basis, including weekends and holidays.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE/SKILLS/ABILITIES FOR LEVEL II:**

1. Advanced knowledge and understanding of advanced principles and techniques of fire, arson, and criminal investigations.
2. Advanced skill in writing detailed technical and scientific reports.
3. Advanced skill in gathering, analyzing and synthesizing data.
4. Advanced skill in working with a variety of individuals from diverse backgrounds in high stress situations.

**NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR BOTH LEVELS:**

1. An offer of employment will be contingent on the success of a pre-employment physical, psychological examination, polygraph and complete background check.
2. Applicants must obtain a special police commission.

3. Applicants must have or be able to obtain within thirty days from the date of employment, a valid Washington State driver's license, unrestricted except as to vision. A complete driving abstract will be required.
4. Applicants must be able to respond to any locations within contiguous King County within 60 minutes (with the exception of the Skykomish area, the Greenwater area, and Vashon Island).
5. The successful candidate will serve a six-month probationary period, subject to extensions up to twelve months.

***DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS FOR LEVEL I:***

1. Three years in the fire service; or 2 years in law enforcement.
2. It is also highly desired that the successful candidate also be a Certified Fire Investigator recognized by the State of Washington.

***DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS FOR LEVEL II:***

1. At least five years minimum full-time experience performing fire investigations; or a minimum of four years experience as a law enforcement officer or as a career firefighter and one year of experience performing fire investigations.
2. It is also highly desired that the successful candidate also be a Certified Fire Investigator recognized by the State of Washington.

***LICENSING/CERTIFICATION FOR BOTH LEVELS:***

Encouraged to obtain appropriate Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) certification within 18 months after probation period.

***UNION MEMBERSHIP:*** Positions in this classification are required to join the Local 519, Public Safety Employees Union within 30 days of employment.